

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: January 8, 1958

FROM :

SUBJECT:

ESPIONAGE

b3581
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/13/82 BY SP6 BJSTolson _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Nease _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
Weyton _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

_____ general counsel, House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA), called Mr. DeLoach at 2:30 P.M., 1-8-58. _____ stated that Lou Russell (former Special Agent Louis J. Russell) was now a member of the HCUA staff. Between the time that Russell initially was employed by the HCUA and the time of his return in late 1956 to that committee, Russell was employed by a private detective agency run by Robert Maheu and known as Robert Maheu Associates. _____ stated that Russell had confided that while employed by _____ he had done quite a bit of work for the captioned individual who is a registered agent of _____

According to _____ the _____ agent, called Russell on the night of 1-7-58 and told him he would like to see him that night. Russell made arrangements to meet _____ and upon contacting him discovered that _____ still believed that Russell was employed by the private detective agency Robert Maheu Associates. Russell did not advise _____ any differently. _____ proposed that Russell procure information of a military nature and turn it over to him. He reportedly stated that such information would be transmitted to the Egyptian Government. _____ did not know from his conversation with Russell whether the information was to be obtained from the U. S. Government or in what manner. Russell did advise that he was to receive \$1,000 for each piece of information obtained and transmitted to the _____ Government.

_____ had no further facts. He believes Russell's story. _____ has no objections to Russell being interviewed by FBI Agents.

Russell entered on duty 6-7-37 with the FBI and resigned 4-10-42 and re-entered on duty 6-1-42 and stayed until 1944 when his resignation was requested because of misuse of an official automobile. Russell has become a rather neurotic individual. Reports have reached the Bureau that he threatened suicide on one occasion and on numerous occasions his name has shown up in newspapers in connection with matters which affected his prior employment by _____

REC- 65

cc-Mr. Boardman

cc-Mr. Belmont

cc-Personnel file of Louis J. Russell (67-37816)

CDD:jmr

(5)

FEB 6 1958

60 FEB 12 1958

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 61-758

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson from [redacted]

Re: [redacted] Espionage

the FBI. He furnished numerous details regarding HCUA members upon leaving that committee the first time. Several sources indicated that Russell had cracked up mentally. We have been advised that [redacted] of the HCUA employed Russell only to allow him the courtesy of getting his feet back on the ground and making a go of things.

There is no doubt but what Russell is rather unstable and may attempt to use the above incident to publicize his own name. On the other hand, an allegation within FBI jurisdiction has definitely been made known to us and it appears that we have no choice but to interview Russell. It is, therefore, suggested that Russell be interviewed by at least two agents and that this interview take place at the Washington Field Office rather than at Russell's office in the chambers of the HCUA.

b6
b7C

ACTION:

It is suggested this memorandum be forwarded to Mr. Belmont for appropriate consideration.

✓ [signature] [signature]

Sup. OBERNDORF, WFO,
ADVISED 1/9/58 TO
INTERVIEW RUSSELL.
WFO WILL SUBMIT RESULTS
OF INTERVIEW + REC. ACTION
JRM